



State Committee of Interpreters

Volume 5, Issue 2

January 2008

MEETING SCHEDULE

You will find listed below the tentative schedule of upcoming Committee meetings. The public is invited to attend the open session of the meetings. The open session will begin at 9:00 a.m. The meeting locations are listed below.

March 28, 2008

Kansas City, MO, Maplewoods Community College

June 20, 2008

Springfield, MO, Hawthorne Park Hotel

September 12, 2008

St. Louis, MO, Florissant Valley Community College

November 21, 2008

Fulton, MO, William Woods University

BOARD MEMBER POSITIONS

Members of the State Committee of Interpreters are appointed by the governor with advice and consent of the Senate. An individual is appointed for a four-year term, and is eligible to serve for no more than two terms. The membership of the Committee is to reflect the differences in levels of certification, work experience and education. No more than two interpreter educators can be members of the Committee at the same time. To be considered for appointment, individuals must be licensed as an interpreter, United States citizens and residents of the state of Missouri.

If you have additional questions regarding the appointment process or if you know of an interested individual, please contact: David Broeker, Director, Division of Professional Registration, P.O. Box 1335, Jefferson City, MO 65102, david.broeker@pr.mo.gov.

Meeting Schedule.....	1
Board Member Positions.....	1
Message From The Division Director	2-3
Know Your Board Members	4
Complaint Statistics	4
Tax Compliance.....	5
Town Hall Meeting Pictures	5
Currently Disciplined Interpreters.....	6
Consumer Report.....	6-9
Recent Committee Activities	9
Frequently Asked Questions.....	10
What is FARB?.....	10
What is CLEAR?.....	11
PCED Certification/Licensure Informational Sheet.....	11-12
How To Verify A License.....	12
Chair Chat With John Adams.....	13-14
Mentorship...What's it All About?.....	14-15
Moving?.....	16

MESSAGE FROM THE DIVISION DIRECTOR



The Division of Professional Registration has had a busy and successful 2007. It was a year of significant and beneficial accomplishments, not the least of which was a legislative session where 14 of our 16 proposals were truly agreed to and finally passed and signed into law by the Governor Matt Blunt.

Legislation also signed into law by the Governor created the Board of Private Investigator Examiners which went into effect August 28, 2007. This board consists of 5 members; three private investigators and two public members appointed by the Governor with advice and consent of the Senate.

With the addition of the Private Investigator Examiners, the Division of Professional Registration now houses 18 administrative boards, 13 non-administrative (autonomous) boards and 8 advisory boards:

18 Administrative Boards

- State Committee of Interpreters
- Office of Athletics
- Endowed Care Cemeteries
- State Committee of Dietitians
- Board of Geologist Registration
- Board of Examiners for Hearing Instruments Specialists
- Interior Design Council
- Marital & Family Therapists
- Board of Therapeutic Massage
- Board of Occupational Therapy
- Committee for Professional Counselors
- State Committee of Psychologists
- Missouri Real Estate Appraisers Commission
- Missouri Board for Respiratory Care
- State Committee for Social Workers
- Office of Tattooing, Body Piercing & Branding
- Missouri Office of Athletic Agents
- Board of Private Investigator Examiners

13 Non-Administrative Boards

- Board of Accountancy
- Board for Architects, Professional Engineers, Professional Land Surveyors and Landscape Architects
- Board of Chiropractic Examiners
- Board of Cosmetology & Barber Examiners
- Missouri Dental Board

Governor

The Honorable Matt Blunt

Department of Insurance, Financial Institutions and Professional Registration

Douglas M. Ommen, Director

Division of Professional Registration

David Broeker, Director

State Committee of Interpreters

John T. Adams, Chairperson
St. Louis, Missouri

Andrea Segura, Secretary
Liberty, Missouri

Kathleen Alexander, Member
Rocheport, Missouri

Lisa Betzler, Public Member
St. Louis, Missouri

Tim Eck, Member
St. Louis, Missouri

Public Member
Vacant

Carrie L. McCray, Member
Fulton, Missouri

Pamela Goose, Executive Director

Rhonda Robinett-Fogle, Administrative Assistant

Vacant, Licensure Technician II

3605 Missouri Boulevard, P.O. Box 1335
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102

Phone: (573) 526-7787

Fax: (573) 526-0661

TTY: (800) 735-2966

URL: <http://pr.mo.gov/interpreters.asp>

E-mail: interpreters@pr.mo.gov



STATE OF MISSOURI
Division of Professional Registration

This is an official publication of the Division of Professional Registration. Submit articles to: State Committee of Interpreters, P.O. Box 1335, Jefferson City, MO 65102.

Division Director's Report *continued*...

- State Board of Embalmers & Funeral Directors
- State Board of Registration for the Healing Arts
- Missouri State Board of Nursing
- State Board of Optometry
- Missouri Board of Pharmacy
- State Board of Podiatric Medicine
- Missouri Real Estate Commission
- Missouri Veterinary Medical Board

8 Advisory Boards

- Advisory Commission for Dental Hygienists
- Advisory Commission for Anesthesiology Assistants
- Missouri Acupuncturist Advisory Commission
- Athletic Trainer Advisory Commission
- Advisory Commission for Clinical Perfusionists
- Advisory Commission for Physical Therapists
- Advisory Commission for Registered Physician Assistants
- Advisory Commission for Speech Pathologists & Clinical Audiologists

On September 26, 2007, the Division held a board orientation and update. The Honorable Jay Wasson, District 141, Missouri House of Representatives headlined the state officials and Division staff who participated in the day-long event. Representative Wasson is Chairman of the House Professional Registration Committee and offered considerable insight on the legislation process. Special thanks to Representative Wasson for joining us during the afternoon session. We were also pleased to have participation from staff members of the Governor's Office, Secretary of State's Office, and the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules.

The Division Mission is

- Protect the Public ...
from incompetence, misconduct, gross negligence, fraud, misrepresentation and dishonesty.
- License only "qualified" professionals...
by examination and evaluation of minimum competency.
- Enforce standards...
by implementing legislation and administrative rules.

I am proud to be associated with a team of dedicated employees who take this mission seriously.

KNOW YOUR BOARD MEMBERS



John T. Adams
Chairperson
St. Louis, MO
Term Expires: 10/9/07
Comprehensive Level



Tim Eck
Member
St. Louis, MO
Term Expires: 10/30/07
Intermediate Level



Kathleen Alexander
Member
Rocheport, Missouri
Term Expires: 10/9/08
Advanced Level



Lisa Betzler
Public Member
Ballwin, MO
Term Expires: 12/11/06



Andrea Segura
Secretary
Liberty, MO
Term Expires: 10/09/10
Comprehensive Level



Vacant
Public Member



Carrie McCray
Member
Fulton, MO
Term Expires: 10/9/09
Comprehensive Level

Complaint Statistics										
July 1 - June 30	FY98 97-98	FY99 98-99	FY00 99-00	FY01 00-01	FY02 01-02	FY03 02-03	FY04 03-04	FY05 04-05	FY06 05-06	FY07 06-07
Complaints	4	7	19	6	8	2	3	7	5	13
Discipline	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0

TAX COMPLIANCE

By: David Barrett, Division Legal Counsel



One of the most disappointing ways that we lose members of our professions is when licensees choose not to live up to their civic obligation to pay state income taxes. Section 324.010 RSMo. requires the Division to provide the Department of Revenue (DOR) with the names of everyone applying for a license or renewing a license. Those who have not paid their taxes and those who do not correct the situation with DOR within 90 days of the date a notice of intent to suspend is sent, lose the right to practice their profession until the matter is cleared up.

Recently this process has resulted in notices of intent to suspend being sent to between 1 and 2 percent of our new and renewal applicants. The Division works hard to make sure that licensees know that they have a Department of Revenue issue that needs to be cleared up. Within days of being informed that the Department of Revenue has sent a notice of intent to suspend, each board or commission sends at least one letter to its affected licensees at the licensee's address of record. Many times the issue is cleared up easily. Some of our licensees work out of state (or out of the country!) and don't have a Missouri income tax obligation. And in some cases there are glitches with names and other identifiers that are easily resolved. Further, tax liability paid in the protest or reasonably founded disputes about such liability are considered paid for the purposes of this law. If you get a notice by mistake make sure you contact the Department of Revenue immediately so that it can be corrected in the 90 day window allowed by law.

Like any suspended license, renewal fees must be paid, changes of address must be reported, and all of the other regulations of the profession must be followed. There is no end date to a tax suspension. But the licensee holds the key to resuming practice – getting right with the DOR. The Department of Revenue issues taxpayers compliance letters when the issues are resolved; that taxpayer/licensee must then send the compliance letter to his or her licensing board or commission and comply with any other board or commission requirements so that the right to practice is promptly restored.

TOWN HALL MEETINGS...



1. Mathers, Taci	Probation	4/25/2006 to 4/25/2008
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2. Zustiak, Mary	Probation	11/05/2007 to 11/05/2009
While holding an intermediate certification, licensee accepted interpreting assignments for medical settings.		

However, Question # 1.a and Question # 6.a are different. The information listed under Question # 1.a concerning what foreign languages a school offers was only obtained from the schools that answered “Yes” to Question # 1 (170 high schools and 44 colleges and universities), and the N-sizes given are the number of schools in our sample that actually offer the various languages. Similarly, the sub-questions listed under Question # 6.a were only asked of the schools that answered “Yes” to Question # 6 (7 high schools and 21 colleges

and universities), and the N-sizes given are the number of schools in our sample that actually provided the various responses. So, for example, of the 170 high schools that said they do offer one or more foreign language courses 89% or 160 schools offer Spanish. And of the 7 high schools that said they do offer a course in sign language 29% or 2 schools indicated that the instructor of their sign language course was certified by the American Sign Language Teachers Association (ASLTA).

The survey results present a rather mixed picture of sign language instruction in Missouri. Whereas 89% of our high schools teach Spanish, which is a language useful for communicating with many Missourians, only 4% of our high schools teach a course in sign language, which can also be used to communicate with many Missourians. In contrast, the second most frequently taught language in our high schools (French) probably is of extremely limited utility in facilitating day-to-day discourse with other Missouri citizens. However, the good news is that 24% of our high schools indicated that they were interested in possibly teaching sign language courses in the future. Our colleges and universities are doing much better with nearly half of them (47%) presently offering a course in sign language and half of them (47%) indicating that they are interested in possibly teaching sign language in the future.

MCDHH sincerely hopes that this "Consumer Report" will serve as a stimulus for people who use sign language throughout the state of Missouri to visit their local schools and ask if they provide any sign language instruction at their institution. And, if not, hopefully those who are interested in seeing more sign language instruction in Missouri schools will formally request their local schools to consider adding a course in sign language to their curriculum. The data shows that 76% of high schools and 24% of colleges and universities have never been asked to offer a sign language class, and the only way to increase the amount of sign language instruction in Missouri has to begin with people stepping forward and asking for it.

This "Consumer Report" may be freely duplicated and distributed. A copy of it is posted on the MCDHH website (www.mcdhh.mo.gov) and may be downloaded and printed by anyone. Please contact our office if you would like further information or if personnel at your local school are interested in having a staff member of MCDHH visit and discuss with them the benefits of providing sign language instruction in Missouri schools.

1. Does your school/college/university offer any foreign language courses?

High Schools:	94%_ Yes	6%_ No	0%_ Don't Know	0%_ NA	*(N = 180)
Higher Education:	98%_ Yes	2%_ No	0%_ Don't Know	0%_ NA	(N = 45)

1.a. (If "Yes" to Question # 1) What languages do you offer?

	High Schools		Higher Education	
	*****		*****	
Spanish	89%	N = 160	93%	N = 42
French	41%	N = 73	71%	N = 32
German	17%	N = 30	40%	N = 18
Latin	5%	N = 9	7%	N = 3
Japanese	2%	N = 3	29%	N = 13
Italian	1%	N = 1	22%	N = 10
Chinese	1%	N = 2	22%	N = 10
Hebrew	1%	N = 1	7%	N = 3
Russian	0%	N = 0	20%	N = 9
Arabic	0%	N = 0	18%	N = 8
Greek	0%	N = 0	7%	N = 3
Portuguese	0%	N = 0	4%	N = 2

Note: The percentages given for Question # 1.a are the percentage of the schools that answered "Yes" to Question # 1 (170 high schools and 44 colleges and universities). The N sizes given for Question # 1.a are the actual number of schools in our sample that offer the various languages.

2. Do you have any deaf or hard of hearing students in your school/college/university?

High Schools:	44%_ Yes	48%_ No	7%_ Don't Know	2%_ NA	(N = 180)
Higher Education:	69%_ Yes	9%_ No	18%_ Don't Know	4%_ NA	(N = 45)

3. To your knowledge, has your institution ever had a request to offer a course in sign language?

High Schools:	8%_ Yes	76%_ No	17%_ Don't Know	0%_ NA	(N = 180)
Higher Education:	51%_ Yes	24%_ No	18%_ Don't Know	7%_ NA	(N = 45)

4. Has your institution ever considered offering a course in sign language but could not find a qualified teacher for it?

High Schools:	5%_ Yes	64%_ No	29%_ Don't Know	2%_ NA	(N = 180)
Higher Education:	18%_ Yes	60%_ No	16%_ Don't Know	7%_ NA	(N = 45)

5. Does your institution have any interest in possibly offering courses in sign language in the future?

High Schools:	24%_ Yes	27%_ No	48%_ Don't Know	1%_ NA	(N = 180)
Higher Education:	47%_ Yes	16%_ No	27%_ Don't Know	11%_ NA	(N = 45)

6. Does your school/college/university presently offer any courses in sign language?

High Schools:	4%_ Yes	96%_ No	0%_ Don't Know	0%_ NA	(N = 180)
Higher Education:	47%_ Yes	51%_ No	0%_ Don't Know	2%_ NA	(N = 45)

6.a. (If "Yes" to Question # 6)

	High School	Higher Education
	*****	*****
Is academic credit given for the course?..		
Yes	88% (N = 7)	73% (N = 16)
No	13% (N = 1)	27% (N = 6)
When is the course offered?.....		
Daytime	100% (N = 8)	24% (N = 5)
Evening	0% (N = 0)	43% (N = 9)
Daytime & Evening	0% (N = 0)	33% (N = 7)
What is the focus of the course?.....		
ASL	88% (N = 7)	86% (N = 18)
PSE	0% (N = 0)	10% (N = 2)
SEE	0% (N = 0)	0% (N = 0)
ASL & SEE	13% (N = 1)	5% (N = 1)
What is the level of the course?.....		
Beginning	88% (N = 7)	57% (N = 12)
Intermediate	0% (N = 0)	0% (N = 0)
Advanced	0% (N = 0)	0% (N = 0)
Beginning & Intermediate	13% (N = 1)	5% (N = 1)
Beginning & Intermediate & Advanced	0% (N = 0)	38% (N = 8)

Average number of students in the course?*		26.25 (N = 8)	16.72 (N = 18)
Is the instructor ASLTA certified?.....	Yes	29% (N = 2)	39% (N = 7)
	No	71% (N = 5)	61% (N = 11)
Gender of the instructor?.....	Male	13% (N = 1)	11% (N = 2)
	Female	88% (N = 7)	90% (N = 17)
Audiological status of the instructor?.....	Deaf	0% (N = 0)	21% (N = 4)
	Hard of Hearing	13% (N = 1)	11% (N = 2)
	Hearing	88% (N = 7)	68% (N = 13)
Education of the instructor?.....	Diploma	0% (N = 0)	11% (N = 2)
	Associate	25% (N = 2)	11% (N = 2)
	Bachelors	25% (N = 2)	17% (N = 3)
	Masters	50% (N = 4)	56% (N = 10)
	Ph.D.	0% (N = 0)	6% (N = 1)
Is the instructor an interpreter?.....	Yes	43% (N = 3)	44% (N = 7)
	No	57% (N = 4)	56% (N = 9)

Note: The percentages given for Question # 6.a are the percentages of the schools that answered "Yes" to Question # 6 (7 high schools and 21 colleges and universities). The N sizes given for Question # 6.a are the actual number of schools in our sample that gave the various responses.

* NA = No Answer

** Calculated mean of the reported number of students in the various sign language classes.

Note: Percentages do not always total 100% because of rounding error.

RECENT COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

February, 2007 - Andrea Segura attended the 2007 FARB Annual Meeting.

March, 2007 - State Committee Meeting

June, 2007 - Tim Eck and Lisa Betzler manned exhibit table at Six Flags Deaf Awareness Day.

June, 2007 - Kathleen Alexander manned exhibit table at the MOAD Conference.

June, 2007 - State Committee Meeting

September, 2007 - State Committee Meeting

September, 2007 - John Adams, Tim Eck, Carrie McCray, Kathleen Alexander and Andy Segura manned the exhibit table and attended the MCDHH Convention.

September, 2007 - Tim Eck manned the exhibit table at the Annual Special Education Administrators' Conference.

December, 2007 - State Committee Meeting

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

When does the license need to be renewed?

An interpreter's license will expire January 31 of each calendar year. A renewal notice is sent to the licensee approximately 60 days in advance of the expiration date.

It is very important to keep the state committee informed of an interpreter's mailing address because the renewal will be sent to the address maintained within the licensee's file. Even if a licensee does not receive a renewal notice, the licensee is responsible for renewing a license.

What is the cost to renew a license?

The renewal fee is \$90.00.

What if an interpreter changes an address or has a name change?

Maintaining accurate information is important. If an interpreter has an address change, either call the state committee office, send a brief note listing the changes in address, telephone number, etc. or fax the information to (573)526-0661. If an interpreter has a name change, it must be submitted in writing with a copy of the documentation (i.e. marriage license, court order) authorizing the name change.

Can an interpreter make copies of the law and rules booklet or form?

Yes.

What continuing education is required to maintain a license?

Continuing education, also known as permit/certification maintenance (PCM), is regulated by the Missouri Commission of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and is associated with maintaining a current certification. Questions regarding PCM should be directed to the commission office at: (573)526-5205.

What type of documentation will the interpreter receive to verify licensure?

When an application is approved for licensure, the interpreter will receive written notification along with a small license suitable for framing and a wallet card.

How can an interpreter obtain a duplicate license?

If an interpreter misplaces a license or if the license is destroyed a duplicate can be issued. The interpreter must submit the request either by mail, e-mail or fax to the state committee office.

Mail: P.O. Box 1335 Jefferson City, MO 65102

E-mail: interpreters@pr.mo.gov

Fax: (573) 526-0661

Web: <http://pr.mo.gov/interpreters.asp>

WHAT IS FARB?

The Federation of Associations of Regulatory Boards was formed in the early 1970s to provide a forum for individuals and organizations interested in professional regulation, FARB was originally composed of associations of healthcare regulatory boards and was appropriately called Federation of Associations of Health Regulatory Boards (FAHRB). In the early 1980s, FARB expanded its membership to include associations of non-health related boards and modified its name to reflect the expanded scope and membership.

FARB holds three meetings per year in keeping with its public protection purpose of sharing information related to professional regulation, particularly in the areas of administration, assessment and law. The FARB Forum is held annually in January and board members, administrators, executive directors, attorneys, investigators and staff are invited to attend this informative conference. The Leadership Conference is held annually for Executive Directors and other members of the organization's governing body. In October, FARB hosts the Attorney Certification Seminar which is attended by assistant attorney general representatives, private practitioners representing regulatory boards, and some board members and staff.

FARB activities are governed by a Board of Directors that includes one representative from each Full Member organization. Day-to-day operations are administered by an executive director in FARB's Evanston, Illinois office.

WHAT IS CLEAR?

The Council on Licensure, Enforcement and Regulation (CLEAR) is the premier international resource for professional regulation stakeholders. CLEAR was conceived more than 25 years ago as a resource for any entity or individual involved in the licensure, non-voluntary certification or registration of the hundreds of regulated occupations and professions. Since its inception, CLEAR's membership has included representatives of all governmental sectors, the private sector, and many others with an interest in this field.

Through its conferences, publications, training, inquiry and other services, CLEAR helps its members carry out their shared mission of public protection. CLEAR has defined its own educator role as proactively identifying critical issues; providing a dynamic, interactive forum for exploration of these issues and collecting and disseminating relevant information on them. There are three core areas of substantive inquiry that CLEAR supports through its annual conference and other venues: professional discipline; credentialing/ examination issues; and policy and administration.

In brief, CLEAR's hallmark is its inclusiveness. Since it does not lobby or adopt positions on debatable matters, CLEAR offers neutral ground to those holding diverse viewpoints. This holistic approach serves its members well and permits unusual responsiveness to a necessarily varied and changing constituency. At this time, CLEAR is particularly interested in closer ties with the regulatory community in Western Europe and Australia. An Office of International Affairs based in England provides assistance to all CLEAR's constituencies beyond North America.

PCED CERTIFICATION/LICENSURE INFORMATIONAL SHEET

SCI = STATE COMMITTEE OF INTERPRETERS

MCDHH = MISSOURI COMMISSION FOR THE DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING

PCED = PROVISIONAL CERTIFICATION IN EDUCATION

MICS = MISSOURI INTERPRETER CERTIFICATION SYSTEM

In order to work in an educational setting, an interpreter must hold at least an Intermediate (level 3) certification however, if an interpreter is certified and licensed with a MICS Novice or Apprentice Certification and a valid license from the SCI, the interpreter is eligible for a 3-year PCED. During that 3-year time frame, the interpreter is allowed to work in a school district, but must re-test and pass with a higher level. If that Novice interpreter gets an Apprentice certification, then the interpreter submits a request to MCDHH for the PCED to be renewed for 3 more years. Again, the interpreter must continue to re-test and receive their Intermediate certification. Once an interpreter receives the MICS Intermediate, the interpreter no longer needs the PCED because the Intermediate certification level satisfies the Skill Level Standard. If the interpreter doesn't pass the test within the 3-year time frame, then the PCED is revoked with no opportunity to reinstate it; the interpreter must stop working in the educational field. They are allowed to keep their Novice or Apprentice certification and license.

Now, once an interpreter gets the PCED, the interpreter must contact the SCI and let them know they have the PCED. The laws and rules state that you must be certified and licensed in order to work. So, if you have a Novice certification, you must have a Novice license - 2 pieces of paper. If you have a Novice plus a PCED, then you need a Novice license AND a PCED license - yes, that is 4 pieces of paper - to legally work as an interpreter in an educational setting.

I guess we need to start with a simple question: are you working in a school as an educational interpreter? If "no" then skip the rest of this paper to the very end. If "yes," then answer this question: do you hold a PCED? If "no" that's one issue. If "yes" that is an easier fix.

First the "no" situation: fill out the PCED forms from the MCDHH website (www.mcdhh.mo.gov). MCDHH will send out your PCED fairly quickly. Once you mail the forms, you can call and ask if the PCED has been granted. Once you know it has been granted, contact the SCI office (573)526-7787 and inform them you have been issued a PCED and need a license showing the PCED certification. There is no charge for this other license. SCI will get your license approved and sent back in about a week – generally less.

Now for the "yes" situation: call the SCI office (573)526-7787 and inform them you have a PCED certification and need a license showing the PCED certification. SCI will get it out to you ASAP. See, much easier.

Every year, you will still need to earn 1.2 CEU's in order to maintain your MICS certification with MCDHH. Plus, you must renew your license with the SCI. When you get your license renewal form from the SCI, make sure it lists your Novice or Apprentice Certification AND your PCED. If it doesn't, fill in the missing information and submit your license renewal form. Again, you must have a current MICS Novice or Apprentice Certification, a PCED and a valid license in order to work in an educational setting.

START HERE AGAIN Please, please, please, call either the SCI office (573)526-7787 or the MCDHH office (573)526-5205 if you have any questions regarding the PCED and licensure.

HOW TO VERIFY A LICENSE

It is important as an employer of Interpreters in the State of Missouri to verify the current status of each license with the Missouri State Committee of Interpreters. This can be accomplished in the following ways:

1. On the web, go to pr.mo.gov, licensee search, profession name = Interpreter. You can search by licensee name or license number. In the white box enter either the licensee name or license number. When entering the name you must enter the last name followed by a comma, then a space, then enter the first name. Click Search. If you are unable to obtain a match you should call our office at (573)526-7787.
2. Call our office (573)526-7787. We will ask for the licensee name and/or license number.
3. Fax your request for a verification to (573)526-0661. Include the licensee name and license number if you have it and also include your name and telephone number if you want someone to call you with the status or a fax number if you want the status faxed back to you.
4. You can mail your request for a license verification to our office at: *Missouri State Committee of Interpreters, P.O. Box 1335, Jefferson City, MO 65102*. We will indicate the status and return the request to you.

CHAIR CHAT

John Adams, Chair, Interpreter Member



Hi! I'm John. I'm the Chairperson for the State Committee of Interpreters. This past year, the members of the SCI have been traveling around the state to present Town Hall meetings. Our goal for these meetings was to provide an opportunity for us to meet you and for you to meet the members of your licensure committee. We wanted you to know who we are and for us to hear your concerns and questions related to licensure.

At the meetings, the various members of the SCI and our staff took turns presenting different information regarding licensure and the licensure process. At the end, we had a "Q and A" period to address any additional questions. Anything we didn't get to answer, participants could write down on our feedback form with the promise of a future contact and answer. Well, here comes the questions/concerns and answers! (We must have done a good job, because we don't have that many).

Q1: How many members are on the SCI? Do all the members sign? Do you have to hold a license?

A1: The SCI is comprised of five interpreter members and two public members. As of this writing, there are six members: five interpreter members and one public member. Yes, all the interpreter members sign. Yes, if you wish to be an interpreter member, you must be a certified and licensed interpreter. The two public members of course are not licensed.

Q2: Who governs the interpreter exam?

A2: MCDHH (Missouri Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing) and the BCI (Board for Certification of Interpreters) are responsible for the administration of both the written and performance tests for interpreter certification. Although we work closely with the MCDHH and the BCI, we are different agencies with separate offices and different responsibilities.

Q3: This was my first meeting and I found it enlightening. Thank you.

A3: You're welcome!

Q4: I work for a school district. If my supervisor orders me to interpret a situation that is above my certification level and I refuse, will the board back me up if I receive discipline for insubordination?

A4: The law will back you up. It is your duty to refuse a job or assignment based on your skill level as well as your experience and background. Although you may need to get your own lawyer to help you, your supervisor can call us to confirm you are telling them the truth.

Q5: What is the PCED?

A5: The PCED is the Provisional Certification in Education offered by MCDHH and the BCI. Please read our article on the PCED elsewhere in this newsletter. For more information, you can contact MCDHH as well.

Q6: Your lawyer talks a lot.

A6: Why, yes, he does. We appreciate his willingness to attend and speak at our Town Hall meetings and our regular meetings. While each of the SCI members have a good understanding of the statutes and rules

governing interpreters, David Barrett has an understanding of the statutes and rules that affect all of the licensed professions in the Division of Professional Registration. He can expand and expound on a large variety of topics presented at our Town Hall meetings, and we encourage him to do so.

Q7: I thought everything was well covered. I have no further questions.

A7: Great! I'm running out of room for this article and therefore have no further answers.

So, there you have it. Those were some of the questions left over from our Town Hall meetings in Kansas City, Springfield and St. Louis. I hope you enjoyed this edition of "Chair Chat." I know I did. Let's get together and do this again. Next year, we will be visiting the ITP's for a chance to meet the students. I'm sure we'll get a lot of great questions from them. Of course, all of the meetings of the State Committee of Interpreters are open to the public and you are always welcome and encouraged to attend our meetings. The members of the State Committee of Interpreters value all your input. Until the next newsletter, happy (licensed) interpreting!

Mentorship...What's it All About?

By: Carrie McCray, Interpreter Member



Many of us find ourselves out of school but still looking for ways to improve our skills. Often times workshops are not helpful due to the lack of signing time in the time allotted. The State Committee of Interpreters has another option that allows interpreters to improve their skills in an internship like environment while a practicing interpreter.

There has been some confusion surrounding mentorship because both agencies (State Committee of Interpreters and Missouri Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing) have mentorship programs. The State Committee of Interpreters' mentorship deals with the ability to work outside the scope of your license by one standard when with an identified and approved mentor.

Mentorship relationships are for practicing interpreters. Mentorship is when two interpreters work together on videos and other forms of text to improve comprehension skills and then also working if possible in live setting where appropriate to practice using the newly acquired skills. While under an approved mentorship with the State Committee of Interpreters, the interpreter wanting to improve skills is allowed to work one level above his/her skill level in the setting designated on the mentorship application. Mentorship was not designed for daily WORK, but for the practice and rehearsal of skills with a more skilled interpreter before producing the skills in a live interpreting assignment.

Some basics of the rule are:

- The Mentor/Mentee must fill out the appropriate application.
- Specific goals and evaluation techniques must be identified on the application.
- The mentor must be certified as a MICS Intermediate, Advanced, or Comprehensive, or have a RID/NAD certification recognized by the state and a current license.
- The mentee must be certified at the Novice, Apprentice, or Intermediate level and licensed.
- The mentor and mentee are limited to managing 3 mentor/mentee relationships during a 6 month time period.
- The mentor is responsible for the supervision of the mentee while interpreting an assignment used to satisfy the goals of the mentorship.
- The mentee is only allowed to practice one skill level above their specified skill as stated in the skill level standards

while participating in a mentorship and the assignment can be no longer than 2 hours in length.

- ALL members (hearing and deaf) in the assignment must approve of the mentee's involvement.

It is important to understand that this rule does not say that anyone can team with someone and work above their skill level. The only time an interpreter can work one level above the skill level is when engaged in an approved mentorship. Mentorship is a commitment by both the mentor and mentee to work on the identified skills. Working above your skill level outside of mentorship activities can result in a complaint being filed for not following established skill level standards.

Mentorships are NOT allowed for Medical, Mental Health, or Legal assignments. Due to the nature of the assignments, an interpreter must hold the necessary certifications before working in these areas. Before the phone calls start..., if someone is interested in learning more about a specific type of interpreting and they hold the appropriate certification for that assignment, an approved mentorship with the State Committee is not necessary. Please do not fill out the application. The application is only needed if someone is going to be working outside of the skill level standards. The committee has to review the application and get back to the requesting interpreter before the mentorship can begin; it does not begin with the mailing of the application.

The rule in legal easy to read language is posted in the State Committee of Interpreters Handbook. Please let us know if you have any questions, we would be happy to answer them for you.

Thanks!

The members and staff of the Missouri State Committee of Interpreters would like to thank Lisa Guillory for her years of valuable service to the Missouri State Committee of Interpreting.

Lisa resigned in September, 2007 as a Public Member.
Many, many thanks to Lisa, she will be missed.



John Adams, Chair, presented Dr. Guillory with a plaque on December, 13, 2007 during an appreciation dinner in honor of Dr. Guillory.

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3605 MISSOURI BLVD.
P.O. BOX 1335
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